

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAID, PROF, ACP, EEC

SUBJECT: EC/ACP CONVENTION OF LOME TO ENTER INTO FORCE APRIL 1

REF: (A) 75 EC BRUSSELS 1129, (B) 75 EC BRUSSELS 1519

1. ITALY HAS RATIFIED THE EC/ACP CONVENTION OF LOME -- THIS COMPLETES THE EC RATIFICATION PROCESS. FORTY-TWO OF THE 46 AFRICAN, CAR-IBBEAN AND PACIFIC (ACP) COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY RATIFIED, WELL BEYOND THE REQUIRED TWO-THIRDS, SO THE CONVENTION WILL NOW ENTER INTO FORCE ON APRIL 1, 1976.

IT WILL EXPIRE ON MARCH 1, 1980, FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF SIGNATURE. THE EC AND THE ACPS ARE DUE TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS IN OCTOBER 1978 ON ITS REPLACEMENT AND/OR EXTENSION.

2. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONVENTION WILL MEAN THAT FINANCING OPERATIONS UNDER THE FOURTH EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND (EDF) AS WELL AS UNDER THE EXPORT REVENUE STABILIZATION SCHEME (STABEX) CAN BEGIN. THE TRADE REGIME OF THE LOME CONVENTION HAS BEEN IN PLACE SINCE JULY 1, 1975.

3. IN ADDITION, THE EC/ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WILL NOW BE ABLE TO FORMALLY CONSIDER THE VARIOUS REQUESTS FOR ACCESSION TO THE CONVENTION THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. (THE FIRST SESSION OF

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THE CONCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN

PROPOSED FOR JUNE 1976.) COUNTRIES THAT HAVE INDICATED AN INTEREST IN ACCESSION (AND IN SOME CASES BEGUN INFORMAL PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EC COMMISSION) ARE: SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, CAPE VERDE, PAPUA-NEW GUINEA, SURINAM, SEYCHELLES, MOZAMBIQUE AND THE CAMORO ISLANDS. MORRIS

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